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CONFIDENTIAL

6 May 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: Inter-Agency Views on SE-28: Consequences of the Revelation of the Contents of Certain Government Documents

1. This estimate was prepared in response to your direction of 1 May, following the NSC meeting of 30 April.

2. The agency representatives have indicated agreement with the substance of the estimate, and it is not anticipated that any basic disagreement will be expressed on matters of substance.

3. The Air Force representative strove hard for the inclusion of a statement that the report could be "sanitized" so as to avoid or mitigate the adverse consequences of its publication without impairing its usefulness for FTC purposes. The Board and the other agencies rejected this proposal on the grounds that (1) it was outside the scope of the problem presented, (2) it was doubtful whether the Report could be effectively "sanitized" and (3) a decision on that point would require the participation of the FTC. The Air Force representative reserved the right of his principal to raise the issue at the JAC, but will probably try to dissuade him from doing so.

4. The estimate has been prepared with an eye to possible distribution not only to the President and the NSC, but also to members of Congress and executive departments not concerned with foreign affairs. With the resulting possibility of leakage to the press, the estimate (a) makes no statement believed to be at variance with publicly stated US policy and (b) refers to the substance of the Report only to the extent that would reasonably follow from the mere knowledge of its existence and subject matter. The Board and the agencies have not believed it necessary to refer

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SHERMAN KENT
Assistant Director
National Estimates

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MEMORANDUM FOR: GENERAL SMITH ~~TOP SECRET~~

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In view of paragraph 3 of ONE's memorandum giving inter-agency views on SE 28, I wish to record my previously-expressed view that the FTC Report could not be "sanitized" so as to substantially mitigate the adverse consequences of its publication without impairing its usefulness for FTC purposes. This view is based upon substantial experience as to what the FTC regards as a minimum statement of background and supporting allegations respecting alleged violations of the antitrust laws. The standards applied under such laws are substantially different from those employed when acting under other criminal and civil statutes.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 6 May 1952

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Security Information *(counted as page 2 of Doc 42)*

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